Serial No. 09/778,837

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 2, 4 and 9 have been amended. Claims 1, 7 and 11 have been cancelled. Claims 2-6, 8-10, and 12 are pending and under consideration.

In a telephone conversation with the office of the undersigned, the Examiner indicated that if claims 1, 7 and 11 were cancelled and the remaining claims rewritten in independent form the application would be in condition for allowance. In accordance claims 1, 7 and 11 have been cancelled and 2, 4 and 9 have been rewritten in independent form. Thus, it is submitted that claims 2-6, 8-10 and 12 are in condition for allowance.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

4908

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